

Amendments to the Specification:

Please amend the paragraphs of the Specification as follows:

[0007] In a second aspect of the invention, a system for voice-to-text reduction for real-time messaging can include a microphone for receiving a calling party's speech input, a ~~text-to-speech~~ speech-to-text converter for converting the calling party's speech input to a text message, a transmitter for transmitting the text message as a text stream to a called party, a receiver for receiving another text message from the called party, and a rendering device for rendering text messages substantially in real-time.

[0020] Operationally, a user of the system 10 would preferably use their microphone 12 to initially use a voice training module 14 to create a voice signature to be stored in a signature repository 18. As explained above, the voice signature [[18]] 16 or a copy 20 of the voice signature is retrieved from the signature repository 18 to reconstruct the original voice of the calling or sending party. Thus, a voice input such as "hello" provided by the calling party into the microphone 12 is converted to a text message using the text-to-speech converter 22 and sent as a text stream to the receiver 19 and a text-to-speech synthesizer 24. The previously recorded voice signature (16 or 20) is applied during the text-to-speech synthesis conversion at the receiver 19 so that "hello" is audibly detected at the speaker 26 with a voice resembling the calling party's voice.

Please amend the Abstract as follows:

A method or system (40 or 50) for voice-to-text reduction for real-time messaging can use a microphone (12 or 52) for receiving a calling party's speech input, a ~~text-to-speech~~

speech-to-text converter (22 or 54) for converting the calling party's speech input to a text message, a transmitter for transmitting the text message as a text stream (23 or 60) to a called party, a receiver for receiving another text message as a text stream (31 or 70) from the called party, and a rendering device such as a speaker (36) or a display (68) for rendering text messages substantially in real-time. If a speaker is used, the system can further include a text-to-speech synthesizer or converter (24). A system (80) can further include a translator (82) for translating the text message into another language.